(c) A natural gas pipeline from Iran can be laid under deepwater outside the Pakistan EEZ or in shallow waters within the Pakistan EEZ or overland *via* Pakistan. With regard to a deep sea pipeline, it poses a number of challenges for construction of pipes, laying them, operation, repair and maintenance. The pipeline would involve water depth of 3600 meters over large sections and nowhere in the world has any pipeline been laid at such water depths. With regard to a route within Pakistan EEZ or the overland route, India has security concerns regarding any pipeline transiting through Pakistan or its territorial waters, which need to be addressed and resolved to our satisfaction.

Jubilee Retail Outlets in Chhattisgarh

1425. SHRIMATI KAMLA MANHAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the amount spent by the Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPC) on the development of Jubilee Retail Outlets (JRO's) in Chhattisgarh;

(b) the quantity of MS (Petrol)/HSD(Diesel) sold by IOC's and HPC's JROs and appointed labour contractors in the State;

(c) the number of complaints alleging irregularities in the functioning of IOC's and HPC's JRO's in the State received by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas since their commissioning, company-wise separately; and

(d) the details of action taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The total amount spent by Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOC) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPC) on the development of Jubilee Retail Outlets (JROs) in the State of Chhattisgarh is Rs. 7.28 crore.

(b) The total quantities of MS(Petrol) and HSD (Diesel) sold by the JROs of the two companies in the State during the last three years, *i.e.*, 2001-02, 2002-03 and 2003-04 were 4.542 KL and 34,807 KL respectively.

(c) and (d) Neither the Ministry nor the oil companies concerned have received any complaint alleging irregularities in the functioning of the JROs in the State.